

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-10 /013 R

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DRAFTED BY NEATF:GQLUMSDEN:AP

EXT. 29380

APPROVED BY NEATF:GQLUMSDEN

S/S-O:MR. WRIGHT

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R 191220Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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FOLLOWING SENT ABU DHABI ALGIERS AMMAN ATHENS BAGHDAD BEIRUT

CAIRO CASABLANCA DHAHRAN JERUSALEM JIDDA KHARTOUM KUWAIT

LONDON MANAMA MOSCOW NICOSIA NOUAKCHOTT PARIS RABAT ROME

SANA'A TANGIER TEHRAN TEL AVIV TRIPOLI TUNIS USUN NEW YORK

ACCRA 15 OCT 73; ALSO SENT GENEVA 17 OCT 73:

QUOTE SECRET STATE 203684

INFORM CONSULS

KUWAIT PASS DOHA, MUSCAT

FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XX, PFOR

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. THIS MESSAGE IS TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON OUR POLICY  
EFFORTS AND STRATEGY IN CURRENT MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND ON  
REASONS FOR OUR DECISION TO MOUNT MILITARY RESUPPLY  
OPERATION TO ISRAEL. AFTER SUCH TIME AS GOVERNMENT TO  
WHICH YOU ARE ACCREDITED BECOMES AWARE OF OUR AIRLIFT EFFORT  
AND WE CONFIRM FACT HERE TO PRESS, YOU SHOULD

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TAKE INITIATIVE IN MAKING OUR VIEWS KNOWN WITH APPROPRIATE

FONOFF OFFICIAL.

2. FROM BEGINNING OF WAR OCTOBER 6, ONCE OUR ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES HAD FAILED, OUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO TWO OBJECTIVES: TO END THE FIGHTING AND TO CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH WILL MAKE PROGRESS POSSIBLE TOWARD A FINAL JUST AND LASTING ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE.

3. TO THESE ENDS WE (A) TOOK THE INITIATIVE ON OCTOBER 7 TO CONVENE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, (B) HAVE HELD INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL AND OTHERS, AND (C) EXERCISED RESTRAINT DURING INITIAL PERIOD OF CRISIS IN SHIPMENT OF FURTHER ARMS TO AREA OF CONFLICT.

4. IN ADDRESSING SECURITY COUNCIL OCTOBER 7, AMBASSADOR SCALI STATED THE PRINCIPLES WE BELIEVE SHOULD GOVERN ANY SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION IN PRESENT CRISIS. WE HAVE FORMULATED NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, ADOPTED NO RIGID POSITIONS AND SUBMITTED NO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, IN ORDER NOT TO PREJUDICE FREE GIVE-AND-TAKE OF IDEAS AS SEARCH FOR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSENSUS GOES FORWARD.

5. FYI: MILITARY SITUATION HAS NOW EVOLVED TO POINT WHERE ISRAELIS HAVE DRIVEN SALIENT INTO SYRIAN LINES (WHICH INCLUDE IRAQI AND SOME MOROCCAN FORCES) TO WITHIN 20 MILES OF DAMASCUS; JORDAN HAS SENT A BRIGADE TO SOUTHERN SYRIAN FRONT WHICH IS NOT, HOWEVER, ENGAGED IN COMBAT; AND EGYPT HAS CONTINUED MASSIVE BUILD-UP EAST OF CANAL WHERE IT HOLDS AREA UP TO 10 MILES INTO SINAI. MEANWHILE, BOTH SIDES HAVE SUSTAINED HEAVY LOSSES OF MEN AND EQUIPMENT. END FYI.

6. IN PAST THREE DAYS, I HAVE MADE MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO DEVELOP CONSENSUS WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT END TO HOSTILITIES ON BASIS OF PRESENT DISPOSITION OF FORCES. SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN FAILURE THESE EFFORTS TO DATE IS THAT SOVIETS HAVE NOT COOPERATED AS MUCH AS WE WOULD HAVE DESIRED IN EFFORT TO TERMINATE HOSTILITIES.

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7. IN ADDITION, SOVIETS TOOK INITIATIVE IN LAUNCHING MASSIVE AIRLIFT OF ARMS, AND NUMBER OF FLIGHTS HAS NOW REACHED 200. AFTER REPEATED REQUESTS TO THE SOVIET UNION NOT TO EXACERBATE THE SITUATION, THE USG CONCLUDED IT HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BEGIN RESUPPLY AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THIS BEGAN ONLY AFTER SOVIET RESUPPLY EFFORT HAD REACHED MASSIVE PROPORTIONS. WE WISH TO STATE WHAT AS SOON AS AN EFFEC-

TIVE CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, WE ARE PREPARED TO  
STOP OUR AIRLIFT PROVIDED THE SOVIETS DO THE SAME.

8. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE CONDITIONS THAT LED TO THE  
OUTBREAK OF THE WAR MUST BE ENDED AND WE ARE PREPARED  
TO WORK TO THAT END. WE VIEW THIS RESUPPLY EFFORT AS  
NECESSARY IF WE ARE TO REMAIN IN POSITION TO USE OUR  
INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE SETTLEMENT.  
I HAD ALREADY INITIATED EFFORTS TO THAT END DURING  
BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AT UNGA IN NEW YORK WHEN CURRENT  
HOSTILITIES ERUPTED.

9. FINALLY, WE WANT TO MAKE CATEGORICALLY CLEAR, IN  
LIGHT OF NUMBER OF IRRESPONSIBLE CHARGES ABOUT PARTICIPA-  
TION OF U.S. FORCES IN CURRENT HOSTILITIES THAT THERE  
IS NO REPEAT NO INVOLVEMENT OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES  
OR PERSONNEL IN THE FIGHTING.

10. FOR MOSCOW: YOU MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING IN YOUR  
DISCRETION AND AS YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN DEALING  
WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS.

11. FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES AT ARAB POSTS: IT IS  
ESSENTIAL EACH OF YOU PLAY THIS MATTER CALM AND COOL.  
WE ARE PURSUING THE ONLY COURSE FEASIBLE IN THE PRESENT  
SITUATION. I REALIZE THAT THERE WILL BE SOME CRITICISM,  
BUT THIS CABLE SUPPLIES YOU WITH AMPLE AMMUNITION IN  
YOUR TALKS. ONE THING I WANT ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO  
UNDERSTAND -- WE ARE PLAYING AND INTEND TO PLAY A  
CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE. WE WANT TO BRING ABOUT AN END OF  
THE WAR THAT OFFERS SUBSEQUENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
DIPLOMACY IN WHICH WE WILL TAKE SERIOUS ACCOUNT OF ARAB  
CONCERN. THE ARABS, THEREFORE, SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT  
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THEY CANNOT PILLORY AND VILIFY THE U.S. ON THE ONE HAND  
AND TELL US ON THE OTHER HAND WE ARE KEY AND EXPECT US  
TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE AFTERMATH.  
KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE203684  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GQLUMSDEN:AP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS LUMSDEN  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 158  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIDDLE EAST SITUATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XX  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005